



# OPINION

## Consumer Health Concerns

The Food and Drug Administration is being pressured to stop the sale of milk and meat derived from cattle treated with bovine somatotropin (BST) despite the acknowledgment that there is no danger to humans from eating these foods.

On the other hand, for the first time since 1922, the USDA is going to openly allow U.S. companies to import ground meat from other countries even though this imported meat was grown in conditions not regulated by our system.

For some time, U.S. meat and milk producers have expressed frustration over the fact that the same safety and inspection regulations to which U.S. producers are held are not imposed on foreign country meat producers. Yet these products from those meats are allowed to be imported, competing with domestic production.

Now the USDA claims its testing is so good that, despite the fineness of the grind, federal inspectors can catch efforts to mix in or substitute ground meat from animals other than those domestic species accepted in the American markets.

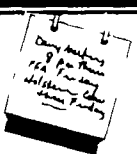
Meanwhile, the call for the ban on meat and milk derived from BST cattle results from investigators with the General Accounting Office (GAO), which is an agency of the U.S. Congress. The GAO has asked the FDA to stop the sale of meat and milk from BST-treated animals and also withhold commercial approval of BST because of increasing concern about indirect health effects on humans.

On one hand we have the likely situation where meat will be placed on American tables from non-regulated foreign sources while the milk and meat from BST-treated animals will be banned even though intensive scientific testing shows that there is no evidence to suggest that BST-milk and meat is of any concern for human consumption.

In the imported meats case, the consumer's health is disregarded and in the case of BST, the consumer's health is overly guarded. If you look behind the scenes, maybe it's not the health of consumers that is really of concern.

What we have noticed is that in both these situations the proposed regulations work against animal agriculture.

## Farm Calendar



### Saturday, August 29

Susquehanna County Holstein Sale, Harford Fairgrounds, noon.

Southeast Pa. 4-H Horse Show, Berks Co. 4-H Community Center, Leesport, 8:30 a.m.

Pa. State Plowing Contest, Olde Tyme Days, Rentzel Farm, Manchester, garden tractor 9:30 a.m., horse plowing (walking) 11 a.m., and sulky 12:30 p.m.

Bucks County Holstein Club Field Day and Picnic, Galen Leatherman's, 11 a.m.

Bradford County Junior Holstein Club Blueberry Festival, Thomas Crest farm, Alba, 7:30 p.m.

### Sunday, August 30

Governor's Volunteer Appreciation Day, Maryland State Fair, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

### Tuesday, September 1

Allentown Fair, thru Sept. 7. York-Adams CMA meeting, York 4-H Center, 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, September 2

Crops Expo 1992, York County 4-H Center, Route 116 south of Route 30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. South Mountain Fair, fairgrounds, Arendtsville.

Montgomery County Dairy Grazing tour, Reinford and Moyer farms, Creamery, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

4-H/FFA Livestock Auction, Maryland State Fair Cow Palace, 7 p.m.

Junior Livestock Sale, Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall, 6

p.m.

Lancaster County Sheep and Wool Growers Association Workshop "Ram Breeding Soundness Examination," Ed Donough residence, Manheim, 7 p.m.

### Friday, September 4

Centre County 4-H District Dairy Show, West End Fairgrounds.

### Saturday, September 5

Pennsylvania Rabbit Conference, Clinton County Fairgrounds, Mill Hall.

Juniata County Fair, Port Royal, thru Sept. 12.

District Dairy Show, Mon Valley, Washington County Fairgrounds.

District Dairy Show, Crawford County Fairgrounds.

District Dairy Show, Dayton Fairgrounds, Clarksburg.

Greene County Ram and Ewe Sale.

First Annual Antique Tractor and Equipment Show. Tractor pulls, pedal pulls, toy display and flea market, Rte. 54, Washingtonville, LeLong Fairground, Montour County, Washingtonville, and Sun., Sept. 6.

Northwest 4-H Dairy Show, Meadville.

### Monday, September 7

Labor Day

### Thursday, September 10

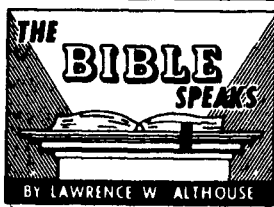
Ag Issues Forum, Willow Valley, 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m.

West Maryland Ag Field Day,

**NOW IS THE TIME**  
By John Schwartz  
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

### To Develop Management Plan

If you do not know where you are going, you cannot map out a



**ARE YOU A MODEL CHRISTIAN?**  
August 30, 1992

### Background Scripture:

Titus 2:7,8,11-14; 3:1-8.

### Devotional Reading:

James 2:22-26

I have read somewhere that Ghandi at one time in his life was very enamored of Jesus Christ and might have become a Christian if it had not been his observation that few Christians tried to emulate their Lord. What he rejected was not Christian teachings, but Christian — or perhaps more accurately: unchristian — behaviour. He deeply respected Jesus Christ, but not many of those who claimed to be Christ's followers.

Think about the Christians who have been influential in your life. Which of these have seemed to make Christ come alive in their lives? Which of these have set an example for us to follow? Most of

Western Maryland Research and Education Center.

Lancaster County Honey Producers Meeting, Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.

Tillage Field Day, Richard Trinca farm, Rebersburg, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

### Friday, September 11

Pesticide Test, Schuylkill Co. Cooperative Extension, 9 a.m.-noon.

Pa. Holstein Fall Championship Show, Ag Arena, State College, 9:30 a.m.

York Interstate Fair, thru Sept. 19. Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show, Catocin High School, Thurmont, Md., thru Sept. 13.

### Saturday, September 12

Beef Grazing Tour, Waffle Hill Farm, Churchville, Md.

Southwestern Pa. Beef Field Day, R.D. Whetzel Farm, Greene County, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Forest Stewardship Landowners Workshop, Dauphin Co. Ag Center, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Erosion and Sedimentation Control Workshop, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Earth Science Center, Montgomery, 8 a.m.

### Sunday, September 13

PennAg's 114th Convention, Mountain Laurel Resort and Conference Center, White

route to get there. Also, you will not know if you are on the right road.

To be a successful business person, you need to set goals for your farm. Once you set these goals you are now ready to develop a management plan to meet these goals.

For example, if you are a dairy farmer, your goal might be to achieve a 20,000 pound herd average. Now, you need to identify the variables that affect herd average and the ones you have control over. These variables, or control points, might consist of 1. the average age of the herd, 2. milk production per cow and 3. calving interval.

Next, for each of these control points you need to establish standards that must be met so you will reach your goal. These standards then become the basis for evaluating your management.

The following example is based

us can remember several people who have in some way for us incarnated Christ in some tangible way. Without some examples or models, none of us would likely be in the church today. For, although the gospel of Jesus Christ deals with ideas, it is the manifestation of those ideas in daily living that wins people to him.

### NOT AN ELECTIVE

Few of us are enthusiastic about being examples or models for other Christians. While we acknowledge that exemplary lives are necessary, most of us would just as soon leave that to someone else. But we cannot; Christian witness is not an elective, but a prerequisite for anyone who would be a follower of Christ. So, when Paul says to Titus, "Show yourself in all respects a model of good deeds, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity and sound speech that cannot be censured..." he is speaking to us, too.

Think for a moment: who are some of the people who might possibly be influenced for or against Christianity by the example you give? What kind of role model do you present to your family, your neighbors, your fellow workers? If someone else's

Haven, thru Sept. 15.

### Monday, September 14

Denver Community Fair, Denver, thru Sept. 18.

### Tuesday, September 15

Pesticide Evaluation Field Day, Fruit Research Laboratory, Biglerville, 8:30 a.m.

### Wednesday, September 16

Delmarva Broiler Housing and Flock Supervisors Conference, Delmarva Convention Center, Delmar, Md.

Solanco Fair, Quarryville, thru Sept. 18.

Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, Mass., thru Sept. 27.

### Thursday, September 17

Oley Valley Community Fair, Oley, thru Sept. 19.

Lycoming County Woodland Owners Association annual meeting, Montoursville, 6 p.m.

### Saturday, September 19

New Jersey Organic Country Fair, Pennington, N.J., 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

All-American Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Pageant, Sheraton Harrisburg East, thru Sept. 24.

### Sunday, September 20

Gratz Fair, thru Sept. 26.

### Monday, September 21

Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.

on figures developed by Lawrence Jones and John Conway, Cornell University. Herd profile: 40 percent first lactation cows, 30 percent second lactation cows, and 30 percent older cows, calving interval of 12.5 months, days to first service is 77, services per conception is 1.7, and heat detection rate is 65 percent.

To attain a 20,610 pound herd average, your first lactation cows would have to peak at 67 pounds, drop no more than 2.1 pounds per month and produce 18,800 pounds milk in 320 days. For second lactation cows the figures would be 80 pounds, 4.6 pounds and 22,500 pounds while the older cows need to produce 93 pounds, 5.2 pounds and 24,000 pounds.

By setting goals, you are concentrating your efforts and now have a standard to evaluate your success as a business person.

Christianity depended upon the example of Christ that you manifest in your life, what kind of model are you presenting?

I said, "If someone else's Christianity depended upon" you, but there is no "if" about it. A day never goes by that someone doesn't mark our behaviour, our attitude, our way of life. We may not be aware that they are watching, but they are. The only way you can escape from influencing others, either for or against Christianity, is to completely hide your Christian discipleship, perhaps even to deny that you are a follower of Christ. And, obviously, that is something we cannot do — for our own sake, as well as for others.

### GRACE & DEEDS

To be sure, Paul says that we are not saved by the example we give: "He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit" (3:3-7). Serving as good models of Christian living does not save us, but neither can we be saved if we fail to fulfill our tasks to let others see Christ through us. If we are saved by God's grace, we must let that grace shine forth in our lives.

Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, thru Sept. 24.

Reading Fair, Reading Fairgrounds Mall, thru Sept. 26.

### Tuesday, September 22

### Autumn Begins

Ephrata Fair, thru Sept. 26.

### Wednesday, September 23

Estimating and Bidding for Landscape Maintenance Workshop, Penn State Great Valley, Malvern, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Eastern National Holstein Sale, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.

West Lampeter Community Fair, Lampeter, thru Sept. 25.

NIR Van, Belmont Fire Hall, Pleasant Mount, 8 a.m.-11 a.m., County Office Building, Montrose, 1-3:30 p.m.

## Lancaster Farming

Established 1955

Published Every Saturday

Ephrata Review Building

1 E. Main St.

Ephrata, PA 17522

— by —

Lancaster Farming, Inc.

A Steinman Enterprise

Robert C. Campbell General Manager

Everett R. Newswanger Managing Editor

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